

MADONNA WHO CAN'T STAND TO SEE ANYTHING AGE

it hurts, watching  
the paint blister  
she wants to  
keep cat's kittens  
keeps changing her  
birthdate can't  
watch her mother  
change from 3 inch  
heels to some  
thing sensible

MADONNA WHO LURES LIKE  
ICED MOZELLE

smooths, shines  
is like a glazed  
road you think  
is melting, slam  
into a guardrail on

-- Lyn Lifshin

Niskayuna NY

A WORLD OUT OF JOINT

the topic for discussion was Hamlet.  
the reactions: 1) "i read a couple pages  
but couldn't understand a thing he was saying,  
so i decided to wait and have you tell me  
what it's all about." 2) "too confusing.  
somebody ought to rewrite it, so we can  
understand what he's trying to say."

let me paraphrase a speech or two for you.  
"Beware of entrance to a quarrel; but being in,  
Bear't that the opposed may beware of thee."  
don't start a fight, but if you can't  
avoid one, make sure you kick ass.

"Costly thy habit as thy ourse can buy."  
don't spend more money on clothes than you  
can afford. lay off the credit card.

"Rich, not gaudy."  
don't wear clothes like Liberace's.

hand raised in the back row:  
yes?

"i didn't think they had credit cards back then."